November 16, 2018

JEPLAN Starts Research Project for Commercialization of Clothing Recycling in Lyon, France

JEPLAN, Inc. ("JEPLAN" CEO: Masaki Takao; Headquarters: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo) is pleased to announce the start of on-site research on construction of a plant equipped with the Company's polyester recycling technology and commercialization of clothing recycling with TECHTERA, European innovation textile cluster, based in Lyon, FRANCE.

The research will be conducted as part of efforts to promote the Japan-France joint project based on a Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) on Textiles signed in 2014 between the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) in Japan and the French Ministry for the Economy and Finance. Also, it was first encouraged by Aderly, the Economic Development Agency for the Lyon area for investment. In addition, this research has been selected as a commissioned project for METI's project feasibility study for the overseas expansion of quality infrastructure in FY2018 (secondary offering).

JEPLAN's polyester recycling technology may offer solutions to the issues of incineration of unsold textile products and marine plastic waste, both of which have been discussed extensively as social issues in recent years. JEPLAN regards the research as an opportunity to consider the feasibility of global expansion of its technology.

In France, where on-site research will be conducted, the government is reported to be considering the imposition of a tax on virgin plastic, in order to limit the use of non-recycled plastic. Therefore, close attention has been given to the development of a framework which enables consumers to proactively participate in recycling. Through the research project, JEPLAN aims to contribute to creating a recycling-based society, which is spreading gradually throughout France and the world.

JEPLAN continues to look for partners who can share the merits of jointly promoting this project and other similar projects.

## **TECHTERA**

Business description: Proactively engaging in open innovation with the goal of establishing the nextgeneration textile industry as an organization overseeing the textile industry in the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region based in Lyon

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JEPLAN, Inc.

CEO: Masaki Takao

Business description: Planning and operation of "BRING" recycling project, manufacture and sale of recycled products

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